

Dear Montgomery County Councilmembers,

As a fully vaccinated health professional living in Montgomery County, MD, I am completely opposed to any vaccine mandates or passports for businesses and schools.

It has become quite clear that the current vaccines available to the public lack the effectiveness and duration to be capable of slowing Sars-Cov2 infections. Our county is the most vaccinated in the country, yet our current rate of infection is among the highest. One day last week approximately 1/200 citizens tested positive for Sars-Cov2. Even Bill Gates declared that the current vaccines are not capable of controlling infection. <https://www.theedgemarkets.com/article/current-covid19-vaccines-missing-two-key-elements-says-bill-gates>. Dr Fauci now says Omicron will find just about everyone. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/01/11/health/us-coronavirus-tuesday/index.html>

WHO says that vaccine mandates should be a last resort to boost low vaccination rates. <https://unric.org/en/who-mandatory-vaccinations-are-a-last-resort/>. A mandate is clearly not needed as our citizens have done their part and gotten vaccinated. The pharma community has let us down with a product touted to be 95% effective, yet in reality is completely ineffective at stopping the current variant of Sars-Cov2. Unfortunately, this is how future evolution of the virus will unfold, with an endless immune escape from potential vaccines. Sars-Cov2 is not polio or the measles. It mutates, infects, and transmits too quickly to be controlled completely by vaccination.

Imposing restrictions on businesses and school children would be a symbolic gesture at best. The best scientific minds in our county must see that a vaccine mandate will not make these establishments safer. This became clear during the latest school board Zoom call where Executive Elrich and Superintendent Mcknight were both working from home ill with Covid despite vaccine boosters. Vaccine mandates will only harm our businesses economically and divide our community further. Many individuals have already had covid and prefer not to vaccinate with a product that will not prevent infection, despite any possible reduction in morbidity and mortality. My family and countless others will gladly take the 20 minute drive to Frederick and Howard Counties to patronize businesses that promote free choice of Covid protective measures.

Also, many of our children have already had Covid, yet they sit masked in school endlessly. They don't understand how this is helping anyone. They are masked and highly vaccinated, yet cases in schools are exploding. Please set a firm guidance for removing masks from our children and do not consider ineffective vaccination mandates for school attendance.

Sincerely,

Peter D'Orazio RPh.